

In the claims:

1 through 14. (canceled)

15. (previously presented) A method of treating atrial fibrillation in a patient comprising:

assessing electrical activity of said patient's heart;

determining the presence of an atrial fibrillation;

determining that said atrial fibrillation is caused by electrical activity in tissue associated with a pulmonary vein of the patient; and

deploying a therapeutic device comprising an endoprosthesis into the pulmonary vein; and,

leaving said endoprosthesis in said pulmonary vein for an extended period of time after said deployment so as to treat said atrial fibrillation.

16. (canceled)

17. (canceled)

18. (original) The method of claim 15 further comprising the steps of:

delivering the endoprosthesis to a target site within the pulmonary vein; and,

placing the endoprosthesis within the pulmonary vein do that it securely engages the wall of the pulmonary vein.

19. (canceled)

20. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising the step of providing the therapeutic device with a surface comprising a low-resistivity material.

21. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising the step of providing the therapeutic device comprising a low-conductivity material.

22. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising delivering the therapeutic device percutaneously.

23. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising delivering the therapeutic device percutaneously, through the left atrium.

24. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising delivering the therapeutic device percutaneously, through the right atrium.

25. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 further comprising deploying the device at the ostium of the pulmonary vein.

26. (previously presented) The method of claim 15 or 18 wherein the therapeutic device has a surface comprising a metal selected from the group consisting of platinum iridium alloys, mp35n, titanium, nitinol, and stainless steel.

27. (currently amended) A method of treating cardiac arrhythmias comprising:

providing a treatment device adapted for implantation in a target site of a pulmonary vein in a patient;

delivering the device to a target site within a pulmonary vein of a patient;

manipulating said device to conform to the shape of the target site; and

leaving said device implanted at said target site.

28. (original) The method of claim 27, wherein the step of providing a treatment device comprises providing a treatment device in the form of a stent, endoprosthesis or circuit interrupting structure.

29. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27, wherein delivering a device to a target site includes delivering said device to an ostium of a pulmonary vein.

30. (original) A method as set forth in claim 29, wherein delivering a treatment device to a target site includes delivering a stent to said ostium of said pulmonary vein.

31. (original) A method as set forth in claim 29, wherein delivering a treatment device to a target site includes delivering an endoprosthesis to said ostium of said pulmonary vein.

32. (original) A method as set forth in claim 29, wherein delivering a treatment device to a target site includes delivering a circuit interrupting structure to said ostium of said pulmonary vein.

33. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27, wherein delivering a treatment device to the target site includes delivering said device to a left atrium.

34. (original) A method as set forth in claim 33, wherein delivering a treatment device to a target site includes delivering a stent, endoprosthesis or circuit interrupting structure to said left atrium.

35. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27, wherein modifying the tissue makeup includes mechanically impairing at least a portion of said tissue.

36. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27, further comprising the step of providing fastening appendages on the device, and engaging said fastening appendages with the target site of the pulmonary vein.

37. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27 further comprising the step of providing barbs on the device, and engaging said barbs with the target site of the pulmonary vein.

38. (original) A method as set forth in claim 27 further comprising the step of providing the therapeutic device comprising a low-conductivity material.

39. (original) A method as set forth in claim 38, wherein said therapeutic agent includes a metallic surface of the device.